the Govt. is keeping close watch on the price behaviour of non-scheduled items and also intervenes wherever found necessary.

Increase in the prices of medicines

4606. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express of 2nd May, 1988 captioned "Escalating Drug Prices";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the prices of medicines under price decontrolled category have gone up by 60 per cent to 300 per cent;

(c) if so, what are the names of the medicines the increase in prices of which by 60 per cent to 300 per cent has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not put any ceiling on the increases;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(f) what was the number of bulk drugs which were under price control under DPCO, 1979 and how many have been deleted from price control under DPCO, 1987; and

(g) what are the reasons for deletion of each and in how many cases the prices have been increased?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987, the manufacturers of decontrolled bulk drugs/formulations are free to revise the prices. However, Government is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary, details of which are given at Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLVII), Annexure No. 153]

(f) List of the referred bulk drugs are given in DPCO, 1979 and 1987, which have already been laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha.

(g) The price controlled drugs included in DPCO, 1987 are based on the recommendations of the *Ministry of Health & Family Welfare* and recommendations of Kelkar Committee.

Import of Potassium Penicillin

4607. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy in regard to import of potassium penicillin G/V which is used for the production of intermediates like 6 APA/7 ADCA.

(b) whether it is a fact that the import is allowed on the recommendations of his Ministry;

(c) what are the basis on which import is allowed;

(d) what is the quantity of penicillin G as well as V recommended by his Ministry during the last three years, year-wise in favour of each party;

(e) what is the quantity each party lifted from indigenous sources;

(f) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is not following a uniform policy and are insisting on certain companies to lift indigenous material and for others recommending import without lifting indigenous material; and

(g) what are the names of the companies the cases of which were recommended for import without lifting indigenous material and what was the quantity recommended in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The import of Penicillin G is tagged with indigenous lifting. In 1987-88 the companies were required to lift the indigenous material first and then apply for imports. For 1988-89, in case of units who have been regular users of Penicillin G in 1987-88 imports and indigenous lifting are being allowed simultaneously. However in the case of units who have not been regular users of Penicillin G in 1987-88 the indigenous lifting forms the basis for allowing imports. Import of Penicillin V is allowed to the companies who had been allowed to import the same in the past.

(d) and (e) Details of indigenous lifting of Penicillin G of various companies during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 are given in the attached Statement (*See* below). Their entitlements of imports are governed by the policy in force at the relevant period. In case of Penicillin V only one company namely M/s Jagsonpal Pharmaceuticals Limited have been granted import licence for import of 45 MMU of Penicilcin V so far and this company is also required to lift the corresponding indigenous component as per the conditions of the licence.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Lifting of Penicillin G (in MMUs)	
		1986-87	1987-88
1.	M/s. Max India	121.57	76.02
2.	M/s Gujarat Lyka	38.10	59.37
3.	M/s. Cepham	11.48	36.58
4.	M/s. Tidi	3.02	18.68
5.	M/s. TTK	—	17.86
6.	M/s. AGIPI	6.00	10.07
7.	M/s. Armour	15.88	18.87
8.	M/s. Cadila	5.50	15.87
9.	M/s. Lupin	—	9.87
10.	M/s. Kopran	—	32.78